Amendments to the Specification:

Please replace paragraph [0021] with the following amended paragraph:

[0021] An enclosure is formed by proper arrangement of a durable, flexible material such as nylon, canvas, denim, polyesters or other suitable materials. Portions of material may be cut from cloth in patterns which can be sewn together. Seams and other regions subject to high stress may be reinforced and improved by supportive webbing materials. Strong rivets may be used to attach and affix webbing to the flexible material. In addition, webbing may be sewn to the flexible material. The enclosure typically has an opening which may be alternatively opened and closed with a zipper or other fastener. When the enclosure is loaded, it may take a certain shape due to the form and limits of the materials used to make the enclosure. A handle may be provided at an end or along a portion of a side of the bag. A handle so placed, suggests a "top" and "bottom" of a bag. The enclosure portion of a bag may therefore have: a bottom portion, a top portion, and side portions each made of flexible material. The bottom of the enclosure meets the sides to form a seam. Two sides and the bottom may be joined together and ~~farm~~ form a corner. A lower quadrant of the flexible enclosure might include two corners, a portion of the enclosure bottom, and portions of the enclosure sides. Normal handling of the bag may cause the lower portion of the bag to be exposed to various forms of wear and contact forces such as impact forces and friction forces. Accordingly, the bottom quadrant of the bag is the focus of a specialized support element.

Please replace paragraph [0022] with the following amended paragraph:

[0022] A rigid member shaped to cooperate in ~~farm~~ form with the enclosure described above, and additionally shaped and designed to resist specific forces to which the element may be

exposed, is provided. It may include wheel wells, protective corners, and reinforcement ribs all integrated as a together single piece. This rigid member may be formed of rugged material such as plastic or metal which are highly durable and resist wear and damage due to contact forces. High impact plastics may be particularly suitable. The rigid member takes a specialized shape. It has a convex side and a concave side. The concave side is shaped to receive therein, a quadrant or substantial portion thereof, the flexible enclosure; particularly a bottom quadrant thereof. A rigid member so designed can be fastened and affixed to a flexible enclosure described above. They may be fastened in a plurality of ways, however, a simple and effective way which is preferred is via rivets. Snaps, Velcro, adhesives or other fasteners may also work for same alternative versions. The convex side may support secondary elements which include: wheel wells, reinforcement ribs, ruggedized corners.

Please replace paragraph [0023] with the following amended paragraph:

[0023] With reference to the drawing figures, a preferred embodiment is shown which represents the best ~~made~~ make contemplated. An enclosure 1 is formed by sewing together various pieces or panels of material. The enclosure generally has a top portion 2, and a bottom portion 3. The sides of the bag generally form a cylindrical shape with axial symmetry. A rigid support member 4 is formed of hard material in a shape substantially similar to a quadrant of the enclosure form. In particular, the rigid support member may have two corners 5. Reinforcing ribs 6 may be integrated into the single piece element to add strength thereto. The support member is preferably formed to accommodate wheels 7 near its bottom. A front view of a travel bag of the invention is shown in Figure 2. The bag 21 may be provided with handles 22 on either side of a zipper opening 24. Alternatively, or in addition, a handle 23 may be attached to the top of the bag. The

bottom of the bag 25 may be of arbitrary shape but generally contains two corners 26. These corners are matingly received into corners ~~8~~ 5 of the rigid support member shown in Figure 1.

Please replace paragraph [0024] with the following amended paragraph:

[0024] A drawing in Figure 3 shows the same rigid support member ~~3 1~~ 31, however, the flexible enclosure portion 32 of the bag has been pushed down into the space of the concave part of the rigid support member. In this way, a bag can be made quite compact for storage. The entire bag occupies a space less than ~~the~~ one quarter of its capacity. It is an important feature that a travel bag be provided which can realize benefits of soft luggage and hard luggage. The rigid member tends to be very durable and protect the soft enclosure like hard luggage, while the soft enclosure portion tends to be lightweight and pack away in a fashion comparable to soft luggage.

Please replace paragraph [0026] with the following amended paragraph:

[0026] It is important to draw attention to the corner 46. When a wheeled travel bag is pulled by a handle, the corners of the bag are subject to great probability of being damaged. They tend to come into contact with many obstacles and objects which may damage a soft bag. Previously, soft bags were reinforced against such contact by merely ~~g~~ adding an extra layer of material at the corners or by putting small corner guards perhaps made of a special rugged material. These types of protection help to alleviate the problem and extend the life of the bag, however, as the corner protectors stand alone and are not integrated with a rigid support system they often fail and eventually become separated from the bag to which they are sewn. The rigid support member described has great resistance against damage caused by contact forces incident at the corners 46. When the rigid member is made of high impact plastic; the corners may stand up to a vigorous beating while protecting the bottom quadrant and sides of the bottom quadrant of the bag from

damage. The corners cannot be separated from the bag as they are integrated with the entire rigid member as a single piece of formed material. Great advantage is realized by forming the rigid member of a single piece. Reinforcement ribs, wheel wells, and ~~coner~~ corner protectors are integrated together in a single device. In this way, the individual elements cannot be separated from each other or from the bag to which they are attached as is common in bags of the art. In addition, a cost advantage is realized because these elements do not have to be independently formed and attached to the bag. A single step of forming a rigid member in the manner described provides a travel bag with strong protection at the wheel wells, corners and ribs. This is particularly important in view of the nature in which some travel bags are used. Travel bags for heavy loads are particularly advantaged by this arrangement. The travel bag described has some advantages associated with soft and hard luggage without the problems which otherwise accompanies those types of devices.